

October 27, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 455 12<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of : Nomination for Universal Service Administrator's Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45.

## Dear Secretary Dortch:

On behalf of Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("BTC"), an incumbent local exchange carrier with annual reporting revenues of \$40 million or less, I hereby nominate Jason B. Williams to serve on the Universal Service Administrative Company's ("USAC") board of directors to represent ILECs with annual reporting revenues of \$40 million or less.

Mr. Williams currently works for the law firm of Christian, Samson, Jones and Chisholm, PLLC, and serves as outside counsel for BTC. During the last few years, Mr. Williams has worked on a variety of legal and regulatory matters for us. Prior to working in private practice, Mr. Williams served as Special Assistant to then Federal Communications Commissioner Kevin J. Martin where he advised the Commissioner on a variety of wireline, wireless and media matters.

Prior to his service at the FCC, Mr. Williams worked as Manager – Regulatory Affairs for XO Communications (formerly Nextlink Communications) where he helped formulate much of the company's regulatory policy during its first three years of operations. Mr. Williams also worked briefly as a Business Development Manager at NeuStar, Inc.

Mr. Williams graduated with honors from the University of Montana School of Law and completed his undergraduate work at the University of Notre Dame.

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Based on his experience and knowledge of the industry, we believe Mr. Williams would be a valuable addition to USAC's board.

Sincerely,

William A. Squires

John A Syms

Senior Vice President – General Counsel Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc.